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500.41219X00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: I. ECHIZEN, et al
Serial No.: 10/078,573
Filed: February 20, 2002
For: WATERMARK INFORMATION DETECTION METHOD
Group: 2621
Examiner: S. D. Patel

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 16, 2005

Sir:


The following is in response to the February 16, 2005 Office Action in which the Examiner alleges that restriction under 35 USC §121 is required and requested Applicants to elect one of the alleged inventions.

In response to the restriction requirement Applicants hereby elect without traverse Species I, Figs. 2 and 3, to which claims 1-8 are directed for further prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, an Office Action examining claims 1-8 is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, the applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C., Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (500.41219X00).

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.



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